

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Riparian Buffer - General

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Riparian Buffer - General		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
EQIP Ranking Questions: Answer "Yes" or "No" to the following questions.	
1. Does this application include a riparian forest buffer? (140 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Does the application include core conservation practices that will be implemented within 500 feet of, and address resource concerns associated with, a stream or water body that is threatened (i.e., receives significant runoff of excess nitrogen or phosphorous), on the EPA 303(d) list, or is impaired with a TMDL in place and therefore not on the 303(d) list (or other critical stream or water body authorized by the Regional Conservationist)? (100 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Are core conservation practices to be implemented on offered acres, associated with a majority of soil types that are classified hydrologic group D (high runoff) or group A (high infiltration)? (85 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
How many Core practices are included in this application?	
4. Three or more practices (75 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Two practices (55 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. One practice (32 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Practices in this application address a concentrated source of pollutants (manure, milking center runoff, etc) utilizing at least one Core Practice, located within what distance of a watercourse/waterbody (A lake, reservoir, pond, river, continuously flowing stream (solid or dashed blue line on a USGS topographic map), NRCS GIS hydro100k layer, or NYS DEC wetland. Only use these tools for the definition of a waterbody)? If multiple water quality resource concerns exist, award the points based on the closest concern. Select only one:	
1. 0-99' of a watercourse/waterbody (60 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. 100-199' of a watercourse/waterbody (30 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. 200-299' of a watercourse/waterbody (15 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. 300-399' of a watercourse/waterbody (7 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. 400'+ of a watercourse/waterbody (0 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
EQIP RANKING Questions 6-7: Answer "Yes" or "No" to questions 6-7:	
6. Does this application include core practices identified in your certified/approved management plan (AEM Tier 3, CNMP, PGM, etc)? (20 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Are practices in this application planned to address soil erosion on HEL fields? (10 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Does this application include practices which will control soil erosion on: (Note: If this application includes multiple fields/areas, use the dominant slope as per the Soil Survey, based on acreage)? Select only one:	

8. Slopes > 12% (greater than C slopes) (40 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Slopes 8-12% (C slopes) (20 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. Slopes 5-8% (B slopes) (10 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
11. Slopes < 5% (A slopes) (0 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
If this application includes a waste storage facility, what was the Risk Mitigation Factor on the Evaluation Worksheet? You may only answer "Yes" to one of the following.	
12. 50 or greater (40 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
13. 36 - 49 (30 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
14. 20 - 35 (20 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
15. 10 - 19 (10 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Does this application include cover crops, residue management, enhanced nutrient management (higher than basic nutrient management), or prescribed grazing on fields being converted from row crops? Select only one:	
16. Practices being applied on greater than or equal to 75% of acres in the application (40 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
17. Practices being applied on greater than or equal to 50% of acres in the application (27 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
18. Practices being applied on greater than or equal to 25% of acres in the application (10 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
What percentage of the land, on which practices will be applied through this contract, are priority soils as listed on the Soil Priority List? Select one of the following:	
19. > 80% (40 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
20. between 20% and 80% (20 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
21. < 20% (0 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

Efficiency: Local Issues: State Issues: National Issues: Final Ranking Score:
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This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative: Signature Date:	Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy: Signature Date:
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